

July 2007

Special points of interest:

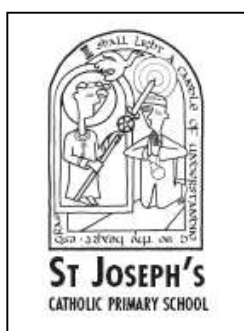
This term the following children were presented with our special awards.

Shallewa (Y3) - Livingstone Shield for all round achievement.

Aiden (Y1) - Dykes Shield for exemplary behaviour.

Jesille (Y5) - Faughnan Jubilee Cup for outstanding effort.

We are so very proud of our children who continue to progress and achieve so much in many aspects of school life.



Inside this issue:

Snippets ... from 2
the Children

Tributes and 2
Farewells

Parish Newsletter Summer Terms 2007

Greetings From Your School

As we come to the end of yet another wonderful academic year I am writing to thank you all for your friendship, support, prayers and your very warm welcome whenever we join you for week day Mass, and extend our gratitude and warmth to you all.

The following children have held office as form captains, prefects and house captains. They held their positions with pride and we thank them for being so conscientious and helpful.

Recent Events

Y6 Leavers Mass

On Tuesday our Y6 presented their final leaving Mass during which they remembered and paid tribute to the significant role St. Joseph's School has played in building the firm foundations from which they can now fly.

We also bid a sad farewell to Miss Stothers and Miss Shepperson who joined us for short term fixed contracts this year. At the end of Mass we were able to pay tribute to the way they so swiftly became an integral part of the teaching team and rose to the many challenges that the British education system presented. We thanked them for everything they brought to our school family and presented tokens of our appreciation. As a school family we wish them every success in their future positions in addition to happy and safe travelling experiences.

Y6 were each presented with a

Form Captains

Y1 – Abigail & Michael
Y2 – Caitlin & Connor
Y3 – Louise & Aaron
Y4 – Diana & Alex
Y5 – Jesille & Matthew
Y6 – Katie & Jess

Prefects

The following children were elected as prefects. They held their office with pride and we thank them for being great ambassadors.

Colour Dictionary which we hope they will use throughout their next stages of education.

Prefects, Librarians, House Captains, Form Captains the School Council and Peer Mediators received gifts as a way of thanks for fulfilling their special roles of responsibility with such integrity. We were amazed to discover we have 57 posts of responsibility across the school!

Swimming Gala

Having sent a team to the recent heats for the Newbury and District Swimming Gala, we were delighted that seven of our pupils qualified for the finals. On Wednesday 11th July, St. Josephs joined other schools at Northcroft Leisure Centre for a morning of superb competition. All of the swimmers demonstrated superb

Head Boy – Kieran
Head Girl- Rachael
Deputy Head Boy – Giuseppe
Deputy Head Girl – Beth

Librarians

Jordan, Emily Billie & Katie

House Captains

St Rose – Jack & Katie
St. Bernadette – Ellie & Edmund
St. Anthony – Dylan & Jessica
St. Nicholas – Katie & Tommaso

sportsmanship and gave their best efforts. The results for St Josephs were:

Paige (Y5) / Butterfly - 4th
Jack (Y5) / front crawl - 5th
Matthew (Y5) /back crawl - 6th
Katie (Y6) / backcrawl - 2nd & breast stroke - 2nd
LouLou (Y5) / individual medley - 4th & front crawl - 3rd
James(Y4)/breast stroke - 2nd
Honor (Y5) /front crawl - 4th

We extend our thanks to everyone who represented the school and to the parents for supporting the event.

We were also delighted when Katie (Y6) was awarded a special shield for best performing girl 2007 - Well done Katie, a great achievement.



Snippets From the Children

Throughout the year, the pupils have represented us at a number of different inter school events in addition to enjoying special theme weeks here in school. They have embraced the many opportunities and are eager to share their news and views! Here are just a few snippets.

Maths Masterclass - June '07

On Saturday 30th of June, three pupils from St. Joseph's Y6, Katie, Zofia and Rachael, attended a maths master class. They thoroughly enjoyed the four tasks set by adults and the opportunity to mix with other children who attended the previous master class.

As the children arrived they were put into separate groups with other children they didn't know; with these children they tried to complete a challenging warm up task. After attempting a Bruax De Change and a circle Diameter task the girls created their very own kaleidoscope. They personalised them with coloured paper and sequins. Another task which was frustrating but fun was the origami session.

The girls had a wonderful day, despite the rain, and would love

to go again next year. It was a great experience for budding mathematicians.

Reported by Katie, Rachael & Zofia (Y6)

Sports Day - July '07

Sports day was a great success with all of the children, everyone enjoyed it.

FS and KS1 competed in a range of track events in the morning which concluded with an exciting Toddlers' Dash. KS2 were great spectators, sitting in their House Groups. During lunch time the field became a giant picnic area where families enjoyed eating lunch al-fresco together.

In the afternoon, building on last year's success, KS2 participated in both field and track events. The year groups travelled around the field doing the activities in boys and girls groups. Finally, at the end of the afternoon, the scores from all events from throughout the day were totalled up and the results were as follows:

First Place: St. Bernadette.

Second Place: St. Rose.

Third Place: St. Anthony.

Fourth Place: St. Nicholas.

Everybody tried their best and should be proud of the part they played for their House as well as trying to better their own personal achievements.

Reported by Ellie & Edmund (Y6)

Douai Abbey - July '07

On Friday 13th July Year 6 went to Douai Abbey to celebrate their Leavers' Mass. Lots of Year 6's from different schools came to take part in this great event.

The theme of the mass was about transition, changes and most importantly to say goodbye to the cluster of Catholic Year 6's. Father Pat, supported by two other priests, was there to preach to us. One of the priests (Mgr. John Nelson) told us about how he had been to Iraq. He also mentioned that he was going back again and that he was less scared than last time. He is a firm believer of God and has strong faith, he knew God was watching. Please find some time to pray for the brave soldiers, priests, nurses and other people who are risking their lives for our country. Y6 are also really sad about moving schools, especially after listening to the mass, but we're excited too.

Reported by Prince & Deane (Y6)

The Irish Blessing

*May the road rise up
to meet you*

*May the wind be
always at your back*

*May the sun shine
warm upon your face*

*The rain fall soft
upon your fields*

*And until, yes until
we meet again*

*May God hold you in
the palm of His hand*



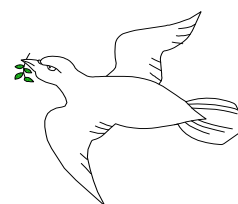
I would like to take this opportunity to thank Father Pat for his support, commitment, sense of humour and friendship. I hope he can manage without us for the next few weeks!

We wish you a very enjoyable and relaxing summer time and look forward to seeing you again in the Autumn term.

With every good wish,

Alison Webster

(Headteacher)



Gold Tiespresented by our prefects

As you may be aware, the pupils in Y6 at St. Joseph's wear a slightly different uniform to the rest of the school. Traditionally, pupils in Y5 are presented with their Gold Tie for Y6 at the last awards assembly in the Summer term. We extend our thanks to Rachael, Giuseppe and Kieran (Y6) for fulfilling this role with such integrity. They spoke very openly about the symbolism of the ties.

"As you know we are almost at the end of our school year and for us, the Y6 class, it will be our last few days as part of the St. Joseph's School family. We will need to pass our responsibilities on to the Y5 class. Being Y6 means we have loads of responsibilities such as prefects and buddies. The current Y5 class will have these in September and we know they will carry them out sensibly. We also have a different uniform

from the rest of the school. In Winter we have gold ties and in Summer we have golden polo shirts. On behalf of Y6 we will be presenting the gold ties to Y5 today. These represent being the 'head' of the school meaning you will stand out from the other years. Y6 is fun, however as previously said, it comes with great responsibility. We have every faith that you will take on that responsibility and complete your jobs with a smile!"